Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY2 6ND

Date: 9 September 2022

My Ref:

Your Ref

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with sadness that Buckingham Palace announced yesterday the death of Her Majesty the Queen.

We have now entered a period of national mourning that will continue until the end of the State Funeral, the date of which is yet to be confirmed. Guidance providing the public, businesses, and institutions with advice on the period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be issued by the Cabinet Office and will be available at GOV.UK.

Early years, schools and further education settings will remain open. Normal attendance is expected, and headteachers will continue to have the power to authorise absences for pupils in exceptional circumstances. Any requests for absences will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account individual circumstances.

We know that children and young people have been hugely affected by the news, both in terms of their education and their ability to socialise and participate in activities that benefit them outside of formal education. We ask for your continued support to make sure your children are able to stay in face-to-face learning, by encouraging them to attend.

It's important to be calm and proactive in your conversations with children – check in with them to see how they are doing. Their emotions may change regularly, and you need to show them that's okay. Please talk to us at the school if you have any concerns.

If children and young people are upset, Minded is a source of information to support children and young people to manage death and loss.

We want to thank you as parents and guardians for ensuring your children and young people remain in education. We know this time may be difficult for many of you, as well as for the children and the young people you care for.

Tanya Miles
Executive Director of People